

STATEMENT BY MRS. WILLIAM G. BEARMAN
(Anne Carpenter) made to Robert H. Neilson on Wednesday,
October 27, 1926.

When the tragedy occurred I was in Scituate, Massachusetts, and did not get back to New Brunswick until Monday evening, September 18. I went to see Mrs. Hall, my first cousin, from time to time, and went in on Wednesday morning, September 20, and asked if there was anything I could do for her. Mrs. Hall said "Yes" she had a coat and scarf that she wanted sent to be dyed. She took the coat, which was a long light brown one from a closet and a scarf from her bureau drawer. The scarf was dark blue, almost black. She put them away in a pasteboard box. Elise Carpenter (Mrs. Moncure Carpenter) was also there and there was a question which one of us would attend to the dyeing. We talked about where to send the things and decided on Bernets where Mrs. Hall had had things done before and where I had often had things done, and who we knew had a reputation for dyeing very well.

When I reached home Mr. Bearman and Mr. J. A. Chambers, the New York Manager of Reckett U. S. A. Limited, were there and saw me open the box which I did to see if any buttons had to be taken off the coat before it was sent to Bernet's and to refold the things. I said it was a shame to dye such a pretty brown coat and showed them the coat, holding it up and letting them see both sides of it. The buttons were black and did not have to be taken off. I held the coat in a bright light and there were absolutely no spots or stains on it or on the scarf. I sent the coat and scarf Parcel Post to Bernets in Philadelphia and wrote them a letter telling them to dye both articles black and to return them to Mrs. Hall direct as soon as possible. As I did not pay for the work, Mrs. Hall must have done so.

For about a year before the murders I was President of both St. Mary's Guild and also of the Women's Auxiliary at St. John's Church. Mrs. Mills attended the St. Mary's Guild meetings regularly and occasionally went to the